

1       1. (Currently Amended) A cable drop support system comprising:  
2           a base adapted for attachment to a surface;  
3           at least one segment connected to the base;  
4           a cable receptacle attached to an end portion of the at least one segment, the  
5           cable receptacle having a generally U-shaped cross-section being structured for  
6           receiving therein at least an intermediate portion of a cable and for supporting the  
7           intermediate portion of the cable as the cable is suspended between a first elevated  
8           structure and at least a second elevated structure that are external to the cable drop  
9           support system;

10           a control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system,  
11          the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at  
12          least one communication media; and

13           at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to respond to  
14          the control system.

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16       2. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the  
17          attachment surface includes a surface area portion of a service vehicle.

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19       3. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the base  
20          includes at least one attachment device structured for attachment of the base to the  
21          attachment surface.

22  
23       4. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 3, wherein the base is  
24          substantially permanently attached to the attachment surface.

1       5. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 3, wherein the base is  
2 removably attached to the attachment surface.

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4       6. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, further comprising at  
5 least a second segment attached to the at least one segment.

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7       7. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 6, further comprising  
8 the segments being structured in a telescoping configuration.

9  
10     8. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the cable  
11 receptacle includes a generally upwardly open U-shaped configuration.

12  
13     9. (Cancelled).

14  
15     10. (Previously Presented) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein  
16 the control system is selected from the group consisting of a computer system, a  
17 processor, and a manual control.

18  
19     11. (Previously Presented) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein  
20 the communication media includes at least one of a wireless medium and a  
21 wireline medium.

1       12. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, further comprising at  
2       least one control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system,  
3       the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at  
4       least one communication media from at least one communication device.

5

6       13. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 12, wherein the  
7       communication device is selected from the group consisting of a remote control  
8       device, a laptop, a personal digital assistant, and a telephone.

9

10      14. (Previously Presented) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, further  
11     comprising at least one remote control device operative over the communication  
12     media to cause the mechanical drive mechanism to extend the cable receptacle  
13     relative to the base.

14

15      15. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 14, further comprising  
16     at least a second segment attached to the at least one segment.

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18      16. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 15, further comprising  
19     the first and second segments being structured in a telescoping configuration.

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21      17. (Withdrawn) The cable drop support system of Claim 16, further  
22     comprising a hand crank operatively associated with the mechanical drive  
23     mechanism.

1       18. (Original) The cable drop support system of Claim 1, wherein the at least  
2 one segment includes a substantially stationary segment attached to the base.

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4       19. (Currently Amended) A cable drop support system comprising:  
5              a base adapted for attachment to a surface, wherein the attachment surface  
6 includes a surface portion area of a service vehicle;

7              a first segment connected to the base;

8              at least a second segment attached to the first segment, the first and second  
9 segments being structured in a telescoping configuration;

10             a cable receptacle attached to an end portion of one of the segments, the  
11 cable receptacle having a generally upwardly open U-shaped cross-section being  
12 ~~structured~~ for receiving therein an intermediate portion of a cable and for  
13 supporting the intermediate portion of the cable as the cable is suspended between  
14 ~~a first elevated structure and at least a second elevated structure that are external to~~  
15 ~~the cable drop support system, the cable receptacle including a generally upwardly~~  
16 ~~open U-shaped configuration for receiving the intermediate portion of the cable;~~

17             a control system operatively associated with the cable drop support system,  
18 the control system configured for receiving instructions communicated through at  
19 least one communication media; and

20             at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to respond to  
21 the control system.

1        20. (Withdrawn) A cable drop support system for facilitating installation of a  
2        cable between at least two elevated structures, with a portion of the cable being  
3        secured to a first one of the elevated structures and with a second portion of the  
4        cable to be secured to at least a second one of the elevated structures, the system  
5        comprising:

6              a base adapted for attachment to a surface, wherein the attachment surface  
7        includes a surface area portion of a service vehicle;

8              a first segment connected to the base;

9              at least a second segment attached to the first segment, the first and second  
10       segments being structured in a telescoping configuration to extend vertically away  
11       from the base;

12              a cable receptacle attached to a portion of at least one of the segments, the  
13       cable receptacle being structured for receiving therein at least a portion of the  
14       cable, the cable receptacle including a generally upwardly open U-shaped  
15       configuration;

16              at least one computer-based control system operatively associated with the  
17       cable drop support system, the control system configured for receiving instructions  
18       communicated through at least one wireless communication media from at least  
19       one communication device from a technician, wherein the communication device  
20       is selected from the group consisting of a remote control device, a laptop, a  
21       personal digital assistant, and a telephone;

22              at least one mechanical drive mechanism operatively coupled to the control  
23       system and to the first and second segments to selectively extend the cable  
24       receptacle in response to the instructions, whereby when the second portion of the  
25       cable is placed in the cable receptacle and the cable receptacle is extended, the

1 second portion of the cable is raised toward the second elevated structure to  
2 facilitate securing the second portion of the cable thereto; and  
3 a battery coupled to provide power to the mechanical drive mechanism.

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5 21. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

6 attaching a first end of a cable to a first elevated structure;  
7 placing an intermediate portion of the cable into the cable receptacle  
8 provided by a cable drop support system;

9 extending the cable receptacle to raise the intermediate portion of the cable;  
10 and

11 transporting a balance of the cable to a second elevated structure.

12

13 22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein placing an intermediate  
14 portion of the cable into a cable receptacle includes placing the portion of the  
15 cable into a generally U-shaped receptacle.

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17 23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, further comprising attaching a base  
18 of the cable drop support system to a surface.

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20 24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, where in extending the cable  
21 receptacle includes extending the cable receptacle away from the surface and  
22 raising the intermediate portion of the cable relative to the surface.